

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, the Title and claims 3 and 18 have been amended. Claim 17 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 26-34 have been added. Claims 1 - 16, and 18 - 34 are pending and under consideration.

No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry of the foregoing amendments and new claims are respectfully requested

OBJECTION TO THE TITLE

In the Office Action, at page 2, the Examiner objected to the title as not being descriptive. In view of the proposed amended title set forth above, the outstanding objection to the title should be resolved.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

At page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4-11, 14-17, 19, 21, 24 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,980,879). This rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 17 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. As such, the rejection of this claim is respectfully deemed moot.

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that the Figure 2B of Yamada et al. discloses the main light spot and sub light spot as recited in claim 1. However, even assuming arguendo that the erasing and recording spots 1 and 2 shown in FIG. 1(A)(1) and the erasing spots described in col. 1, lines 63-68 in U.S. Patent No. 4,710,911 generally correspond to the main light spot and sub light spot, Yamada et al. teaches generating two beams using two laser chips or two laser emitting parts so as to separately form the erasing spot 1 and the recording spot 2. (Col. 4, lines 17-24). As such, Yamada et al. teaches forming the erasing spot 1 and the recording spot 2 using the separately generated beams from corresponding laser chips or emitting parts, which produce the waveforms shown in FIGs. 2A and 2B. As shown in FIGs. 2A and 2B, the light beams forming spots 1 and 2 are not synchronized and are independently modulated as described in col. 3, line 54 to col. 4, line 3.

In contrast, claim 1 recites, among other features, "producing a main beam and a sub beam such that the main beam is synchronized with the sub-beam," "recording a new mark and erasing an existing mark using the main light spot," and "supporting erasing of the existing mark using the secondary light spot during mark recording and/or erasing." As such, it is respectfully

submitted that Yamada et al. does not disclose the invention recited in claim 1.

For at least similar reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Yamada et al. does not disclose the invention recited in claims 6, 7, and 15.

Similarly, it is respectfully submitted that Yamada et al. teaches using dual laser chips in order to create the different modulations shown in FIGs. 2A and 2B. (Col. 4, lines 17-31). As such, it is respectfully submitted that Yamada et al. does not disclose that "the secondary light spot is formed by branching pulse-type light output from the light source unit during the recording signal period, where the secondary light spot comprises a pulse form comprising a same variation as the recording signal" as recited in claim 9.

For at least similar reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Yamada et al. does not disclose or suggest the invention recited in claim 10.

Claims 2, 4, 5, 8, 11, 14, 16, 19, 21, 24, and 25 are deemed patentable due at least to their depending from corresponding claims 1 and 7.

STATUS OF CLAIMS NOT REJECTED:

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner objects to claims 3, 12, 13, 18, 20, 22 and 23 as depending from rejected base claims. Claims 3 and 18 have been rewritten in independent form and have not been narrowed.

PATENTABILITY OF NEW CLAIMS:

Claims 26-34 are deemed patentable due at least to their depending from corresponding claims 9, 10, and 15.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

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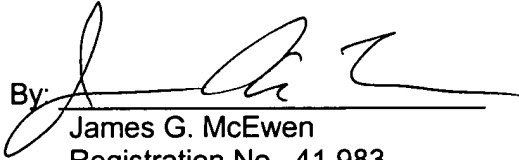
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If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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